

The Government Finance Officers Association of SC Newsletter

Volume 15, Issue 2

Summer 2007



2007 Fall Conference ~ "A Call To Serve"

The GFOASC Fall conference committee is hard at work planning this year's conference and it looks to be another great year. The dates for this year's conference are October 14 - 17, 2007 at the Myrtle Beach Convention Center and Sheraton Hotel. The link to the hotel is on the website for you to make your hotel reservations.

Jim Clyburn has been invited as the keynote speaker. We will offer many interesting topics for state, local government and higher education accounting professionals. This year's conference will offer 16.2 CPE credits.

We will have time for a little fun as we will offer dance lessons in Shag and line-dancing. So get your dancing shoes ready.

In an effort to do out reach we are asking all members who have extra tote bags and or bags laying around to bring them to the conference and we will donate to a local charity.

Be sure to check the website for additional information. Register early. You don't want to miss out.

See you at the conference.

Viola Robinson Faust

President-Elect

Fall Conference Chair



Providing up-to-date information and news affecting the government finance officer profession in South Carolina.

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2007 Spring Conference Well Attended!

The 2007 GFOASC Spring Conference was attended by over 340 government finance professionals from across the State of South Carolina. The day began with a budget update from Comptroller General Richard Eckstrom and then followed with interesting facts and information from Columbia City Manager Charles Austin.

By far the favorite speaker of the day was WIS Television Newscaster Judi Gatson. Judi left everyone with much to think about. The day continued with many interesting and informative con-

current sessions, not the least of which was one lead by retired Senior Assistant State Treasurer, Sandy Agee, now a Certified Clinical Hypnotherapist. Sandy gave her attendees a great edge on relaxation. The day ended with a rousing discussion on voting online at the annual spring business meeting.

Thank you to the committee and especially to all of you who attended. The conference was a wonderful opportunity to network and learn from our peers!

Visit our Web Site Often!

Let us know what you think—this is your tool!
www.gfoasc.com

From Your President ~ Carol Martin

Right now I am in Anaheim, Ca at the GFOA National Conference. On Sunday, we held the SC Brunch at the Hyatt Hotel at the California Grill. We had 10 delegates from SC attend the brunch. The National Conference has been a wonderful experience. There are over 300 vendors at this conference. Some of them have said that they will see us at our conference in October. I have met so many nice people from all over the US, Canada, India, Sweden and Africa.

They had a special event planned on Tuesday Night. The two top vendors had Kenny Loggins in concert for the attendees. They had top notch presenters for our sessions. Robert Reich, who served as the US Secretary of Labor under President Clinton, was one of our keynote speakers. He spoke on Global Economy. The other keynote speaker was Journalist Aaron Brown. He was one of the first to

report on the Vietnam war protests, Watergate, Nelson Mandela's historic election as president of South Africa, the 9/11 attacks, the space shuttle Columbia tragedy and the Iraq war. Everyone should go to a National Conference at least once. GFOA National has 17,300 members and 7,000 were present in Anaheim.

I won a little toy car from Deutsche Bank. Michael Weber, who was at our conference last year was at the booth. He told me I could not have the car until I pronounced the Bank's name right. He was a hoot and of course, I got embarrassed again. LOL

I look forward to seeing all of you at the Fall Conference in October.



Treasurer's Report

Terry Booth, CPA, CGFO ~ GFOASC Treasurer



The Association's finances are looking good this year. As of May 31, 2007, we had \$45,361 in the bank. The year-to-date surplus was \$36,102 compared to \$26,117 last year at the same time. It looks like we will clear close to \$7,000 on the spring conference (compared to last year's \$1,673), thanks to the great attendance we had. For detailed reports, please visit the Treasurer's link on the GFOASC website. Please email me at gfoasc@yahoo.com with any questions or comments.

New Phone Number for GFOASC!

The phone number for GFOASC has been changed!
Please make a note of it for future reference: (803)233-9545.



Certification Committee Update

Cheryl Allen-Lint, CGFO ~ Certification Committee Chair

The new brochure for 2007-2008 certification core courses is still under review at USC. Please continue to check the website for an update. The new brochure will be under the "Certification Information" link.

The 2007 November Exam brochure (registration form) has been posted to the website (Certification link). The dates are November 19th and 20th.

The Certification Committee will meet later this month to audit a random sample of 2006 CPE reports. The reports will be verified for accuracy along with supporting documentation. Remember, CGFO's are encouraged to send backup with the CPE report.

In August, the Certification Committee will review and approve the applications for certification submitted by individuals who passed all parts of the exam this past May. The certificates for these individuals will be awarded at the fall conference banquet.

Continue to visit the "Certification" link for the most current information about the program. Please let me (allenlintcr@cctech.edu) or Lynne Lee (lslee@sc.rr.com) know if you have any questions or concerns about the Certification Program.



2007 Scholarships Offered by GFOASC

Stacey Hamm ~ Scholarship Committee Chair

GFOASC, along with the University of South Carolina, offers the Katherine Zook Scholarship to its members each year. By doing so, the Association provides financial assistance to members seeking to further their professional development by taking part in the Governmental Finance Officers Certification Program.

The scholarship covers the costs of registration fees and books for the five certification courses. The applicant must be a member of the Association and an employee of State, City, County Government, Colleges and Universities or School Districts.

The application is located online at www.gfoasc.com under the scholarship link. The deadline for submission is August 30, 2007. Notification of the award will be made by September 1, 2007. The scholarship will be awarded at the 2007 Fall Conference Awards Banquet on Tuesday, October 16, 2007.

If you should have questions or need additional information, please contact us at (803)233-9545 or email at lslee@sc.rr.com.



Government Finance
Officers Association

GFOA National Update

Marcia L. Medway, M.A.—State Representative to GFOA National

As your State Representative, I had the pleasure to represent you at the GFOA National Conference. I attended a pre conference meeting of Presidents and State Representatives officiated by the Officers of GFOA to include both the current GFOA President and CEO. They spent a great deal of time discussing of the relationship of GFOA and GASB.

I was happy to meet many SC constituents at the opening reception and throughout the conference. The conference key note was Robert Reich, Former Secretary of Labor under President Clinton. Dr Reich spoke of the need for education, specially a technologically trained work force for growth. The second keynote was Aaron Brown, former anchor at CNN. Mr. Brown spoke on the changes in broadcast news and how it shaped the nation and world. Both speakers took many questions from the audience.

Concurrent sessions ran the gamut and provided education in a variety of relevant topics. I had an opportunity to speak with prospective vendors to support our state conference in October. Many are looking forward to supporting the GFOASC and meeting our attendees.

The conference was excellent. If you are interested, conference sessions are available for purchase at <http://www.gfoa.org/>

I urge you to attend future GFOA National conferences. Next year's conference is June 15-18 in Ft. Lauderdale.

As you complete the fiscal year - remember that the GFOASC will be happy to make a presentation of your CAFR to your boards. Please contact me at Medwaym@midlandstech.edu or 803-822-3204 to make arrangements.

Have a safe and happy summer.

Marci Medway

Membership Committee Update

Terry L. Booth, CPA, CGFO ~ Membership Committee Chair

The membership committee members have sent out letters and brochures to many potential members throughout the state. As of May 31, 2007, membership dues income is 20.8% higher than last year at the same time. If you would like to help on this committee, or if you have any suggestions for increasing membership in the Association, please email me at gfoasc@yahoo.com.



Don't forget to bring any old bags that you have lying around with you to fall conference! They will be donated to a charity who can use them!

More information will be available online.



2007 Nominees for Election

The nominating committee is gearing up for the 2007 elections!

Please let us know if you have someone in mind who would make a good addition to the GFOASC Board or if you would like to volunteer yourself!

This year we will be electing a President-Elect, Treasurer, Secretary, and two Directors.

This is your Association—make it the best it can be!



The **2007 Fall Conference** registration form is included in this newsletter! More information on the Conference will be available online as it becomes available!

New Web Site Features ~ Voting Online

Be sure to visit the Web site often! We are preparing for voting online in the fall and we will routinely have polls available so that you can try out the system and also voice your opinion on issues and ideas that affect the government finance officer profession in South Carolina.

We also have the Bulletin Board up and running. If you have information you want to share or issues you need help with post them there and your peers throughout the State can network with you to solve problems and share information. Please be sure we have a current email address for you! www.gfoasc.com

Please visit and let us know if you experience any problems!

GFOASC Luncheons

The next luncheon is scheduled for September 6, 2007. Lt. Chris Cowan from the Richland County Sheriff's Department will be the September Speaker. He will talk about the "Do's and Don'ts of Not Being a Victim of Crime!" Don't miss this great speaker and information!

The September Luncheon will be held at the Brookland Baptist Banquet and Conference Center at 1066 Sunset Boulevard in West Columbia. We tried it out last month and it was enjoyed by all!

The schedule for the remainder of the year is below. Watch the web site for more information!

September 6, 2007

November 1, 2007

Government Finance Officers Association of SC

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(803)233-9545 Phone
(803)359-4892 Fax



GFOASC Fall Conference Dates

October 14-17, 2007

October 12-15, 2008

*Myrtle Beach Convention Center &
Sheraton Hotel*



**Please Note: Our Phone Number
Has Changed! Details Inside!!**